

## Islamic Centre Statement: Our Action Against The Neo-Khawaarij: Al-Muhaajiroon [31-05-09]

On Fri 29<sup>th</sup> May, two hundred members of the Islamic Centre congregation took action against the neo-Khawaarij (kharijites) al-Muhaajiroon. We intercepted their da'wah (propagation) stall and told them to move on. The action was intended to be peaceful, although a third party from the streets intervened and caused minor scuffles.

The action was not a "demonstration" as reported by the media, nor were we dealing with al-Muhaajiroon on behalf of the non-Muslims (as also reported in the media). The police were not informed beforehand although the media were.

Our action was in response to the irresponsible (police protected) protest by al-Muhaajiroon against the returning British troops from Iraaq. The media had a field day, giving this minor incident seven full days of national coverage; al-Muhaajiroon revelled in the publicity, the far right rubbed their hands with glee, and the ordinary Muslim in Luton faced a violent racist backlash. The Islamic Centre received a number of death threats, promising revenge for the actions of al-Muhaajiroon; we were subsequently firebombed with damage running into tens of thousands.

The protest by al-Muhaajiroon led to the formation of the United People of Luton – an anti Muslim alliance, infiltrated by the far right. A number of demonstrations against al-Muhaajiroon took place. The latest demonstration on the 24<sup>th</sup> May culminated in an anti Muslim rampage leading to a number of Muslims being badly beaten, and premises damaged. Such **organised** grassroots anti-Muslim activism is unprecedented in the history of Luton and is a direct result of the al-Muhaajiroon protest against the British soldiers.

Tension and hostility between non Muslims and Muslims in Luton have increased since the al-Muhaajiroon protest. The far right capitalised on the protest: a national BNP campaign leaflet which was dropped through millions of homes in the UK cited the foolish actions of al-Muhaajiroon as one of the reasons why the ordinary British member of public should vote for the BNP.

Our women feel unsafe in the streets, they can no longer go about their normal errands without fear. We hold al-Muhaajiroon responsible for this insecurity they have brought upon the majority peaceful Muslims. Hence we felt compelled to take this action.

The media grossly over-reacted to the al-Muhaajiroon protest giving the impression that all Muslims follow these extremists. We had to put the record straight and let the media know that the vast majority of Muslims have nothing to do with this group who are upon the methodology of Dhul-Khuwaysarah. From the offspring of Dhul-Khuwaysarah came the Khawaarij; the first sect to bring insecurity upon the Muslims.

Alhamdulillah (all praise is due to Allaah), many Muslims have thanked us for this action, and the community in Luton are currently organising a petition against al-Muhaajiroon. We ask Allaah to either guide them to the balanced path as the Prophet (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) said: "The extremists are destroyed, the extremists are destroyed, the extremists are destroyed". Or may He, the Most High, free us of them and their tyranny.